

**Memorandum of the Meeting
Regular Study Session
Twenty-Seventh Town Council of Highland
Monday, September 17, 2012**

The regular study session of the Twenty-Seventh Town Council of the Town of Highland and the Metropolitan Police Commission of the Town of Highland was convened at the regular place, the Highland Municipal, 3333 Ridge Road, Highland, Indiana, in the council meeting room on Monday, September 17, 2012 at 7:07 o'clock p.m.

Silent Roll Call: Councilors Bernie Zemen, Mark Herak, Brian Novak, Konnie Kuiper, and Dan Vassar were present. The Town Clerk-Treasurer, Michael W. Griffin, was present to memorialize the proceedings. A quorum was attained.

General Substance of Matters Discussed:

1. The Town Council discussed adding the centennial logo to appear on the Town Stationary and the agenda, perhaps adding as a tag line, a good place to live.
2. There was a discussion regarding tree stumps in parkways and whether the contiguous property owner was required to remove them or not.
3. The Town Council discussed whether there was a hazardous sidewalk ordinance and the municipal workforce capacity for enforcement. It was suggested that a member of the Council should follow-up with the Public Works Director.
4. The Town Council discussed the effects of the drainage and retention ordinances on economic development. The discussion included whether the newer storm water retention regulations were unduly burdensome on existing developments that were vacant and now house a successor business, involving a same or similar business use. The context of the discussion included a reference to the specific drainage (storage) regulations recommended for the Culver's Restaurant, being developed on the southwest corner of Cline Avenue and Ridge Road.
5. The Town Council discussed an appeal from Councilor Novak to revisit the recently adopted water rate ordinance, to allow the approved rates and charges to be phased in over two years rather than its current no-phase design. (At its Town Council meeting of September 10, 2012, the Town Council adopted and approved the recommended rate increase).
6. The Town Council discussed redistricting and the legal requirement under Indiana law to re-apportion the five council wards or districts before December 31, 2012. The Town Council discussed the progress the reapportionment. It was suggested that Councilor Herak review the materials in a packet provided by the Lake County Elections and Registration Board.
7. The Town Council discussed the issue of acquiring the house and lot on 33xx Ridge Road, as part of the plans related to a proposed Public Safety Building. It was noted that it was not needed for the proposal, but there is an aesthetic and design consideration. The owner, Richard Rakoczy, recently indicated that he was unwilling to sell. It was suggested that two councilors approach Mr. Rakoczy again.

The discussion included the prospects for moving forward on the construction of a new Public Safety Facility, to house the police and fire departments administrations. Some of the proposed designs were discussed. The Town Council also discussed moving forward with a retrofit or reconstructed municipal building. The discussion also included the sentiment that workers in existing facilities should move only once.

There being no further business to come before the Town Council, the special study session of the Town Council, of **Monday, September 17, 2012**, was adjourned 7:56 o'clock p.m.

Michael W. Griffin, IAMC/MMC/CPFA
Clerk-Treasurer